

5 January 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Attached copy of DD/S Notice #51-3,
"Place Name Information Service"

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1. The subject Notice, which directly relates to ODI payment of over [REDACTED] a year and contract arrangements with the Board on Geographic Names (Office of Geography), is ODI's first information on this matter.

2. The Notice incorrectly and misleadingly states that the Office of Geography "provides the staff" for BGN. Except for some nominal funds from DIAF this staff is "provided" by ODI funds under the long-standing contract for the primary purpose of producing and maintaining BIS Gazetteers.

a. The Notice might well lead Agency users to feel that only interior would be affected by any fulsome or increased request for this service, when in fact this would directly relate to BIS production of Gazetteers and/or request for budget support levels.

3. ODI has accepted the fact that such service could be provided to Government components by BIS incidental to the primary mission of producing Gazetteers but we have urged, particularly in the past few years when we have been trying to hold or reduce the level of funds for BIS, that this service be carefully kept within bounds. ODI cannot at this time determine the volume of requests to BIS which may result from the transfer announced by the Notice and in any event recognizes potential Agency need for the subject service, but this action may well complicate our plans for economies in BIS funding and/or may impede Gazetteer production as a Government-wide concern.

4. Such a Notice, at the least, should have urged optimum use of Gazetteers to minimize ad hoc requests. It is my understanding that Map Library Division has more comprehensive source materials to service ad hoc place-name requests, inasmuch as BIS's map inventory at a given time tends to be more related to currently scheduled Gazetteer production. A given workload might well require more BIS effort than was the case with Map Library. This should further offset any impression that this action represents Agency economy.

5. I recommend suggestion to ORR that they arrange discussions with ODI to explore the practicalities of such a transfer of service and, if the transfer is agreed to be appropriate, joint development of a rescinding Notice which will correct the record and be designed to minimize ad hoc requests through appropriate and optimum use of the Gazetteers.

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Attachment

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1 C/D/P	1 - BGN "
1 - AO	1 - ORR
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